HOUSE BILL 1124

By Parkinson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, relative to alternative programs for suspended and expelled students.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3402(a), is amended by deleting the first sentence and substituting instead the following:

Local boards of education shall establish at least one (1) alternative school for students in grades one through six (1-6) who have been suspended or expelled from the regular school program. At least one (1) alternative school shall be established and available for students in grades seven through twelve (7-12) who have been suspended or expelled as provided in this part.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3402(c), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting instead the following language:

Local boards of education shall adopt a policy, in consultation with the state board of education, mandating attendance at an alternative school upon suspension or expulsion in accordance with this part. The student shall be subject to the rules pertaining thereto. A violation of the rules by a student may result in the student's removal from this school for the duration of the original suspension or expulsion, but shall not constitute grounds for any extension of the original suspension or expulsion. The final decision on removal shall be made by the chief administrator of the alternative school.

SECTION 3. For purposes of promulgating rules, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect July 1, 2018, the public welfare requiring it.